

Kindly enter the following Amendment:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-11 and 21-23 without prejudice or disclaimer.

In claim 12, insert a period at the end of the claim.

In claim 35, last line, please change "increase" to --increases--.

Remarks

As required by the Examiner in the Office Action of November 5, 1999, claims 1-11 and 21-23 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer as being drawn to non-elected inventions, and claim 12 has been amended to correct the noted informality. Claim 35 has been amended only to correct an obvious typographical error. None of these amendments includes new matter. Entry of the amendments is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-13, 17-32 and 34-37 are pending in the application, with claims 12, 34 and 36 being the independent claims. Applicants note with appreciation the indication that all art rejections have been withdrawn, as well as all rejections made under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs.

The Examiner has maintained the rejection of claims 12, 13, 17-20, 24-32 and 34-37

under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over co-pending Application No. 08/485,883, co-pending Application No. 08/474,086 and co-pending Application No. 08/474,084. Filed concurrently herewith is a Terminal Disclaimer executed by the owner with regard to these co-pending applications.

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have therefore been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections.

Applicants believe that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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